

CLAIMS

ART 34 AMDT
1.

1. An off-the-road tire (10) having a radially outer tread (12) having a plurality of elongated lugs (40, 42), the elongated lugs (40, 42) having a maximum tread depth (D) as measured from a radially outer surface of the elongated lug inwardly to an inner tread (13), the inner tread (13), in combination with the elongated lugs (40,42), form channels (60) to discharge soil, the tire (10) having a plurality of tread elements interposed between the elongated lugs (40, 42), the tread elements (80) having three or more sides (83,84,85,86) extending from the inner tread surface to a radially outermost surface, the surface having a maximum depth (d), (d) being less than (D), at least one side (83,84,85 or 86) of the tread elements being substantially parallel to an adjacent elongated lug (40, 42), characterized in that the traction elements are positioned in an opening at an axially inner location (61) where the soil discharge channels (60) merge in the center portion of the tread (12).
2. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 1 wherein one or more sides of the tread elements (80) are radially inclined at an angle β , β being equal or greater than 8° .
3. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 1 or 2 wherein the elongated lugs (40, 42) have curved leading edges (67) and trailing edges (68).
4. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 1 wherein the tire (10) has blocks (44) and the inner tread (13), in combination with the elongated lugs (40, 42) and the blocks 44 form openings at axially outer locations (62) to discharge soil, interposed in front of and substantially axially with these openings (62) are one or more tread elements (80) oriented to redirect or divert the discharging soil.
5. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 4 wherein each traction element (80) has one side (83, 84, 85 or 86) having a concave curvature.
6. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 2 wherein the radially outer surface (82) of the tread elements (80) occupies an area at least .25 square inches (mm^2).
7. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 1 is an ATV tire.
8. The off-the-road tire (10) of claim 7 has a carcass (30) reinforced by a ply structure (38) having two or more bias angled plies.